



News and Views

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Public Library Management Institute

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On Sunday evening, the “Institooters” were given a welcome back banquet hosted by Assistant State Librarian for Planning and Development Jane Pinkston and by State Librarian and Archivist Ed Gleaves. Dr. Gleaves provided some words of encouragement for the students for the week ahead.

The Third Time’s the Charm!!

On Sunday the Tennessee Public Library Management Institute welcomed its students back for the third and final year of training at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN. Once again, the “Institooters” were housed in the Hand Village Apartments on campus. The mood was a combination of eager anticipation and maybe a little bit of nervousness about the week ahead as the “Tooters” settled into their apartments.

This group of thirty-two librarians has been through intense training over the past three years. This year should be no different as the students work to complete their training and receive their certification as Tennessee Public Library Managers.

It’s going to be a week full of activities, with a good bit of fun thrown in as well – so let’s get started!

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It’s been a wild ride and while we’ve lost a couple of the original Institooters shown here – the rest are still going strong!

TSLA has a New Website!!

The new Tennessee State Library and Archives website was launched on May 17, 2005. Here is a copy of State Librarian and Archivist Ed Gleaves' message about the new site.

After more than a year of intense internal review of the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA) web site, we are pleased to unveil the results of our efforts.

Here are some of the main characteristics of the newly designed web site:

- It is now internally consistent in terms of format and consistent with other State of Tennessee web sites, including that of the Secretary of State.*
- It reflects a streamlined approach, with a crisp and clean appearance designed to maximize accessibility and ease of use.*
- It relies more heavily on concise textual information rather than icons, thus conserving computing resources.*
- It has been designed topically with the user in mind.*
- It has been vetted and tested by both staff members and knowledgeable users of the current web site.*

Much of the content of the new web site will look familiar, but here are some of the NEW features of the TSLA web site:

- A State Historian's page.*
- Full text of the State Historian's report on The State of State History in Tennessee in 2004 and his Directory of Tennessee Agencies Bringing State and Local History to the Public.*
- Full text of the latest edition of The Volunteer Challenge.*
- Rotating TSLA slide shows, showcasing some of our photographic collection.*
- Online forms for ordering materials and services (which must be printed out and submitted by mail, usually along with payment).*
- A "How do I find?" button, with options compiled from a list of the most frequently asked questions received by Public Services.*
- Expansion of the section on Government Documents, both state and national.*
- Key links to the Tennessee Blue Book and the Tennessee Encyclopedia, as well as a page of links to other sites, all of them government, professional associations, or non-profit sites.*

We welcome your comments and suggestions for improvement once you have used this information resource for a while. Send your comments to the [TSLA webmaster](#). We think you will like what you see.

*--Edwin S. Gleaves
State Librarian & Archivist*

In addition to the features listed above, there is also access to the *TN Public Library Statistics* and information and forms for Direct Service Grants and Summer Reading Programs. Of course, the most important feature is the link to the Public Library Management Institute page! This contains certification requirement information, a breakdown of each year's training focus, and copies of the newsletters for each year. Take the opportunity to sneak a peek at the new website at <http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla/> the next time you are online!

Important Names to Remember

Here is a list of people to remember if you have questions or concerns during the Public Library Management Institute while on campus:

Jane Pinkston – Questions regarding speakers, workshop activities, and assignments during the week.

Shelley Fugitt – Questions regarding daily meals, Thursday's party, and Friday's banquet; quotable quotes, and other items for the newsletter; coordination of photos from the Institute; any other "house keeping" questions that may arise during the week.



Jane Pinkston would like to express her thanks to the Planning and Development staff at the Tennessee State Library and Archives for all of their hard work in preparation for the Public Library Management Institute. Individual contributions include:

Norma Ochoa – Preparation of handouts, gathering supplies, preparation of nametags and door signs, etc, etc, etc.

Jack Stacy – Signage, set-up, airport transportation, etc.

Shelley Fugitt – Advance coordination of meals and food service, newsletter, photos, printing, and running interference, etc.

Lisa Tinch (on loan from Information Systems) – Coordination of computers and set-up.

Thanks to all for your excellent work!

A LITTLE HUMOUR...

